(a) the agricultural products that is being exported by the country;

(b) the countries where exports are made;

(c) the foreign exchange that was earned during the year 1992-93;

(d) whether export of agricultural products has picked up following the announcement of the new Export-Import policy;

(e) whether he has assured the farmers that the Dunkel proposals under GATT negotiations will not affect the Indian farmers; and

(f) the main features of the Dunkel proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The major items are spices, deoiled cakes, tobacco, cashew, cotton, rice, meat, fruits and vegetables and sugar etc.;

(b) The major destinations are the countries in the Middle-East, South-East Asia, USA and Europe.

(c) The total foreign exchange earned from agricultural exports (excluding cotton) during 1992-93 is provisionally estimated at about US $ 1988 million.

(d) The performance of agricultural products has generally been very satisfactory and is expected to further improve pursuant to the changes made in the Policy.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) International trade in agriculture is distorted by the competitive subsidisation of exports of agricultural commodities by some industrialised countries. Some of these countries also heavily subsidise production.

The Dunkel proposals require reduction of subsidies on production and exports, and thus create export opportunities for efficient producers. Analysis shows that the Dunkel proposals would create no problems for our agricultural policies in the short and medium terms. Government has sought changes, improvements and understandings to ensure that there are no problems in the long term also.

ASSOCHAM REQUEST TO ENACT COMPREHENSIVE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LAW

@1512. SHRI KISHAN KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has urged Government to enact comprehensive industrial relations law in tune with the new Industrial policy;

(b) If so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government have since examined the recommendations of the ASSOCHAM; and

(d) if so, the details of changes, Government propose to make in the industrial relations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) Certain suggestions for amending various provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and Trade Unions Act 1926 in the context of the new industrial policy were made in the Seminar organised by the ASSOCHAM in june 1992 on the subject of new industrial policy. Specific proposals for amending the Industrial Disputes Act 1947 and Trade Union Act, 1926 based

@Previously unstarred Question 454, transferred from 29th April, 1993.

on the recommendations contained in Ramanujam Committee Report while taking into consideration various other suggestions including those emanated during the aforesaid Seminar have been formulated and are being processed.

Pending Industrial Disputes of Industrial Finance Corporation

1513. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI :

SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of industrial disputes between All India Industrial Finance Corporation Employees Association and Management of Industrial Finance Corporation pending before Central Labour Commissioner in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the number of disputes settled, so far, during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No industrial dispute between the All India Industrial Finance Corporation Employees' Association and the management of Industrial Finance Corporation of India raised during the years 1990, 1991 and 1992 is pending before the office of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

(b) 25 disputes were settled through mediation by the Conciliation Officers during the last three years.

Benefit and Rehabilitation Fund for Working Children

1514. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the establishment of Benefit and Rehabilitation Fund for the benefit of working children ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not considered necessary as there are number of Schemes for the benefit of working children like; National Child Labour Policy, Grants-in-aid Scheme, International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), Child Labour Action and Support Programme (CLASP) etc.

Functioning of ESI Scheme

1515. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of employees registered with the Employees State Insurance Scheme in the country;

(b) the number of persons registered in Delhi;

(c) the number of ESI dispensaries, mobile dispensaries, hospitals, etc. presently attending to the registered persons ;

(d) whether the condition of these dispensaries are appallingly bad and whether registrants have made complaints about poor medical care in them; and

(e) if so, whether Government would consider to set up a Committee to go into the whole system of ESI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) 62.66 Lakh (As on 31-3-93).

(b) 3.40 Lakh (As on 31-3-93).

(c) The number of the ESI Hospitals, dispensaries etc. as on 31-3-1993 was as under :—